

**Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District**

**2490 Main Road - Tiverton, RI 02878 - Phone (401) 830-5763**

**ERICD Board Meeting**

**August 9, 2011**

**7:00 PM**

**Chairman Walter Elwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.**

**Present were: Directors, Walter Elwell, Ron Mucci, Emerson Wildes, and Richard Hart; Ramona LeBlanc, State Conservation Committee; Melissa Hayden, Stewart Taffe, NRCS; Jessica Blackledge, ERICD Project Manager.**

**I. Minutes: A motion was made to accept the minutes of July 12, 2011 meeting: Emerson/Ron; unanimous.**

**II. Reports:**

**A. Treasurer's:**

- A motion was made to accept the financial report presented at the July meeting: Emerson/Ron; unanimous.**
- August reports were distributed. A motion was made to accept: Dick/Ron; unanimous.**

**B. Project Manager:**

**1. Office Equipment/Status: A laptop and printer were purchased. Air conditioner was installed.**

**2. Program Development:**

**a. Geese:**

- **Jessie is researching signage laws.**
- **A new agreement with NRCS is being developed. Jessie will be the technical contact for the Districts on the new agreement.**
- **Jessie will be making a presentation to the Edgewood Waterfront Preservation Association 10/4/11.**

**b. Other:**

- **All tax assessors in ERICD have been contacted and Jessie will be delivering updated Citizen's Guide to FFOS.**
- **The development of ERICD's website has begun and Ramona will ask NRICD Board if web designer can cut and paste general District information from their website.**

**C. Chair: Nothing to report.**

**D. Directors:**

- **Emerson Wildes: attended the State Committee meeting.**
- **Ron Mucci: Nothing to report.**
- **Dick Hart: Tiverton Town Council will be establishing a committee to monitor Nanequatek Pond and Watershed.**

**E. Office: Continues to be used by NRCS and is open 10 hrs per week.**

**F. NRCS: written report distributed.**

- **2012 Funding: Melissa will supply a report of how 2011 funding was actually distributed by fund code. Board will use this info to rank how they would like to see 2012 budgeted.**

**G. SCC:**

- **There are four agreements being funded. Two will have direct impact on ERICD. Jessie will take lead role on the Geese Abatement and will be one of three Ag Techs working on an Outreach Agreement. It will be District based and will put the Districts in a position of being the first contact for new NRCS applicants.**
- **There will be an indirect benefit to ERICD from the other two agreements as well since the indirect charge will help offset SCC's overhead cost and should result in a reduction of each CD's overhead contribution.**

**H. RIACD: Has not met since last meeting.**

**III. Old Business:**

**A. ERICD Budget: Updated budget which reflects a projection of NRCS agreements was distributed. It reflects a \$4500 deficit. A motion was made to accept it as a working document: Ron/Dick; unanimous.**

**B. Aquaculture: Previously discussed.**

**C. Annual Dinner:** Subcommittee reported that Skip Paul would be willing to coordinate food contributions as in the past several years.

**D. Equipment Bank:** RIACD has been notified that this grant will be funded.

**E. Board Training:** A clarification was made that while it is up to each District Board to determine what modules are applicable to that District, the training of new Directors is required by State law.

#### **IV. New Business:**

- **Nomination papers have been received for Walter and Dick. Ramona will email papers to Ron, whose term is expiring.**
- **A note of thanks will be sent to Steve for his efforts to research and purchase a laptop and printer.**
- **Newport Grange will be borrowing display board.**
- **A motion was made for an ERICD Board representative to express the District's support of pasture management at Pardon Gray: Emerson/Ron; unanimous. Emerson volunteered to speak to property manager.**
- **The Board was unanimous in selecting easternriconservation.org as a domain name.**
- **Final plans for Annual Dinner will be made at September meeting.**
- **Farm Bureau is looking for volunteers at booth at Washington County Fair on 8/17-21.**

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.**